



Safeguarding Intent

Intent:

At Zouch Academy we are committed to the safeguarding and welfare of all of our pupils. Safeguarding is the most important aspect of our inner curriculum. An effective culture of safeguarding is embedded across the school, allowing all staff to work together in the best interests of children to protect them from risk of harm. Senior leaders are dedicated to regular quality safeguarding training which allows all staff to be equipped with the knowledge and understanding of all aspects of abuse, the impact this may have on the child and how they record and respond to concerns. A key part of our safeguarding culture is about all staff being responsible and accountable for reporting concerns and having the right to timely feedback from the safeguarding team. All staff are confident to approach safeguarding leads for advice before and after reporting concerns and the effectiveness with which the designated safeguarding team deal with these concerns has had a huge impact upon the reduced number of children currently under Child in Need or Child Protection. The Early Help and Interventions in place at Zouch such as ELSA, Family Support Worker, Inclusion Manager, Counsellors and the outstanding relationships senior leaders have with parents, result in more children being kept safe. Outstanding relationships are also established within the wider community to help support families through organisations such as Windmill Hill Children's Centre; NSPCC; Army Welfare Services; Unit Welfare Officers; CAHMS and Wiltshire Social Care. Every pupil at Zouch has their own individual safeguarding hand which identifies designated adults who they feel safe and comfortable going to with concerns. We also have a strong network of adult support for pupils who are identified as being at more risk. Through our values-based approach, our children are confident knowing that they are valued and listened to, knowing that the adults in school are passionate about keeping them safe (both on-line and off-line). Our newly embedded PSHE curriculum focuses on age-appropriate safeguarding issues which raises the awareness of dangers from domestic abuse, substance misuse and online abuse. Our robust safeguarding policy is frequently reviewed and adapted to any changes such as the recent procedures in light of Covid, where more children have had to access remote learning from home. All safeguarding systems are enhanced by other embedded systems at Zouch such as Thrive, Well-Being, Jigsaw and our Values. The safety of our children is paramount and takes precedence over everything else in our school.